

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 15, 16, 18, 20, and 22-24 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration in light of the remarks which follow is respectfully requested.

Allowance of Claims 22-24

Applicants note with appreciation the indication, on page 2 of the Office Action, that claims 22-24 are allowed.

Written Description Rejection

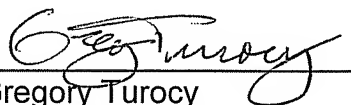
Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 15, 16, 18, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because, according to the Final Office Action, the feature "a relative permittivity of 2.6 or less" is not described in the specification. In particular, the Final Office Action contends on page 2 that there is nothing in Examples to show that the values of 2.6 or less are obtained from the particular organic silicon compound as required by the claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the feature is described in the subject specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time of the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Examples 5-13, for example, describe methods for modifying a porous film to obtain a modified porous film having a relative permittivity of 2.6 or less. See page 36, line 11-page 42, line 17 and Table 1 of the subject specification. The specification describes in these Examples that the modified film was made by bringing a porous film into contact with 1,3,5,7-tetramethylcyclotetrasiloxane, which is within the scope of claim 1. In Example 5, for example, modification of a porous film is carried out in the same manner as in Example 1, and in Example 1, a porous film is modified by contacting the porous film with 1,3,5,7-tetramethylcyclotetrasiloxane. See page 33, lines 15-26 and page 37, lines 1-2 of the subject specification. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Respectfully submitted,
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